

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, lines 7-13, delete the paragraph and substitute for it the following replacement paragraph:

The present ~~invention~~ application is a national stage filing of International Application No. PCT/US2003/025053, filed August 8, 2003, which claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) from U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/402,976, filed August 13, 2002, entitled "Method, System, and Computer Program Product for Processing of Self-monitoring Blood Glucose (SMBG) Data to Enhance Diabetic Self-management," and No. 60/478,377, filed June 13, 2003, entitled "Method, System, and Computer Program Product for Processing of Self-monitoring Blood Glucose (SMBG) Data to Enhance Diabetic Self-management," the entire disclosures of ~~which~~ all three disclosures are hereby incorporated by reference herein.

On page 1, lines 14-21, delete the paragraph and substitute for it the following replacement paragraph:

The present ~~invention~~ application is related to International Patent Application No. PCT/US01/09884, filed March 29, 2001 (Publication Nos. WO 01/72208 A2, WO 01/72208 A3), entitled "Method, System, and Computer Program Product for the Evaluation of Glycemic Control in Diabetes from Self-monitoring Data," and U.S. Patent Application Serial No.:10/240,228 filed September 26, 2002, entitled "Method, System, and Computer Program Product for the Evaluation of Glycemic Control in Diabetes from Self-monitoring Data," the entire disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein.

On page 8, after line 17 and before line 18, insert the following six (6) new paragraphs:

An aspect of an embodiment of the present invention includes a method (or alternatively a computer program) for evaluating the HbA_{1c} of a patient based on BG data collected over a first predetermined duration. The method includes preparing the data for estimating HbA_{1c} using a predetermined sequence of mathematical formulas. The mathematical formulas defined as: pre-processing of the data; validation of a sample of the BG data via sample selection criteria; and estimating HbA_{1c} if the sample is valid.

An aspect of an embodiment of the present invention includes a system for evaluating the HbA_{1c} of a patient based on BG data collected over a first predetermined duration. The system included a database component operative to maintain a database identifying said BG data and a processor, wherein the processor is programmed to prepare the data for estimating HbA_{1c} using a predetermined sequence of mathematical formulas. The mathematical formulas defined as: pre-process the data, validate a sample of the BG data via sample selection criteria, and estimate HbA_{1c} if the sample is valid.

An aspect of an embodiment of the present invention includes a system for evaluating the HbA_{1c} of a patient based on BG data collected over a first predetermined duration. The system comprising: a BG acquisition mechanism, which is configured to acquire BG data from the patient; a database component operative to maintain a database identifying said BG data; and a processor. The processor is programmed to prepare the data for estimating HbA_{1c} using a predetermined sequence of mathematical formulas. The mathematical formulas defined as: pre-process the data; validate a sample of the BG data via sample selection criteria; and estimate HbA_{1c} if the sample is valid.

An aspect of an embodiment of the present invention includes a method (or alternatively a computer program) for evaluating the HbA_{1c} of a patient without the need for prior HbA_{1c} information based on BG data collected over a first predetermined duration. The method includes preparing the data for estimating HbA_{1c} using a predetermined sequence of mathematical formulas. The mathematical formulas defined as: pre-processing of the data; validation of a sample of the BG data via sample selection criteria; and estimating HbA_{1c} if the sample is valid.

An aspect of an embodiment of the present invention includes a system for evaluating the HbA_{1c} of a patient without the need for prior HbA_{1c} information based on BG data collected over a first predetermined duration. The system includes a database component operative to maintain a database identifying the BG data and a processor. The processor being programmed to prepare the data for estimating HbA_{1c} using a predetermined sequence of mathematical formulas. The mathematical formulas defined as: pre-process the data, validate a sample of the BG data via sample selection criteria, and estimate HbA_{1c} if the sample is valid.

An aspect of an embodiment of the present invention includes a system for evaluating the HbA_{1c} of a patient without the need for prior HbA_{1c} information based on BG data collected over a first predetermined duration. The system comprising: a BG

acquisition mechanism, which is configured to acquire BG data from the patient; a database component operative to maintain a database identifying said BG data; and a processor. The processor programmed to prepare the data for estimating HbA_{1c} using a predetermined sequence of mathematical formulas. The mathematical formulas defined as: pre-process the data; validate a sample of the BG data via sample selection criteria; and estimate HbA_{1c} if the sample is valid.

On page 8, lines 18-21, delete the paragraph and substitute for it the following replacement paragraph:

These ~~three~~ aspects of the invention, as well as other aspects discussed throughout this document, can be integrated together to provide continuous information about the glycemic control of an individual with diabetes, and enhanced monitoring of the risk of hypoglycemia.